

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are amended to address some grammatical errors and clarify the claim language.

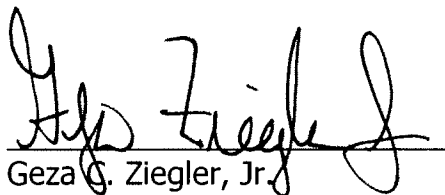
Claims 1-7 are not unpatentable over Delprat et al (U.S. 5617412) in view of Garcia-Luna-Aceves et al. ("Garcia") under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) because Garcia is not prior art.

Applicant's earliest priority date is October 1, 1999, based on Finnish Application No. 19992125. This application is a 371 of PCT/FI00/00848 filed on October 2, 2000. Garcia has a filing date of October 15, 1999, which is after Applicant's priority date. Thus, Garcia is not prior art.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



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11 Dec 2006
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically, on the date indicated below, addressed to the Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 11 December 2006

Signature: Shannon D'Amico

Shannon D'Amico
Name